III. They two went over on dry ground.

1. Elijah's smiting the waters with his mantle, enabling them to pass over on dry ground is just another way of explaining God's wonder-working provision for the passing of Xn homebuilders.

The masterpiece of a certain artist,
"The Valley of Xtk Shadows"
Full of night and despair. Did'nt know the 23rd Psalm.
Later in life he had found X and
when he himself was passing,
he called for his paints and
brushes and masterpiece, saying
"I is flooded with glory, and I
must change the picture."

Simeon and Martha.

Elijah departed in his chariot of fire,
Elisha received a double portion of his spirit,
and taking up his teacher's mantle he smote the
waters of the Jordan and they parted for him.

A MESSAGE TO HOME-BUILDERS.

2 Kings 2:6,7,8 They two went on.
They two stood by Jordan.
They two went over on dry ground.

The journey of Elijah and Elisha from Gilgal to the chariot of fire.

Bethel
Jericho
"As Jehovah liveth and as thy soul liveth, I will not leave thee."

Elisha's insistance on going with Elijah like the declaration of Ruth to Naomi.

Theo picture of these two friends and companions, in the light of the text, suggests a good message to home-builders, including not only mother, but father and brother and sister.

I. They two went on.

1. They two- unity and harmony in the home!

"Can two walk together except they be agreed?"
Can two build a home except they think and live and work together in harmony with each other?
Unity of purpose, of thot, of ideals, of endeavor.

Children cannot be raised properly in an atmosphere of discord. Practically all our criminals were reared in a poisoned atmosphere. Ungodly mothers and fathers make criminals and failures and misfits even as parents who live in unity a and harmony together with God raise their children to greatness and nobility of character.

2. They two went on. Something more than unity, there must be progress also.

In all other lines success is marked by certain achievements. A successful home must also achieve in worth while ways.

Not the progress marked by more costly homes, or by mothers giving their babies over to nurses to be raised, or by allowing each member of the home to go his own way unhindered regardless, or by living in a boarding house or going to the restaurants for meals.

Nor progress marked by the members of the family becoming so steeped in social engagements that the home is abandoned for everything except as a place to sleep and get breakfast.

Progress of the worth-while kind in the home means growth in the fine arts of tenderness, gentleness, and considerateness, in companionship between parents & children

You can have everything else, everything that money

but if you lack the tender heart, the gentle manner, the considerate thotfulness one towards another, you cannot establish a home that is permanent, sweet and helpful.

And do you know that as no other can, Jesus Christ creates that purposeful harmony in the home. When the Spirit of Christ enters the home its members become tender-hearted, gentle and thotfully kind.

II. "They two stood by Jordan". Most of us know what it meas to stand by Jordan. It is only a differed way of saying that we have known nights of agony, times of hopeless despair. We have laid away our loved ones and were siezed with such despair and sorrow as to see no good in living longer&

Then, too, some, have experienced thru untold degrees of bitterness, that there is a blackness far worse than death.

The film company representative wrapped up in his baby-he and his wife worship the child. The story of the young man who wirshipped his wife, then when baby came they two worshipped their little boy. But the little fellow slipped away one day to become a playmate with the angels, then the young mother and father stood by Jordan.

Their wounded hearts gradually became almost healed, the two becoming the more devoted to each other. Then death united the mother and her child in heaven, and the father stood alone by Jordan. And now the father has gone to his reward.

This is a common experience, you say, but none the less personal. The universality of death does'nt make it easy to bear. Happy are they whose homes are filled with the knowledge and presence of God, for when their earthly homes fail they can look to their Heavenly Father for homes not made with hands, eternal in the heaven

"All our earthly journey past,
Every tear and pain gone by,
Here together met at last,
At the portals of the sky!
Each the welcome "Come' awaits,
Conquerors over death and sin!
Lift your heads, ye golden gates,
Let earth's home-builders in!"

III. They two went over on dry ground.

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The masterpiece ~~of~~ a certain artist, "The Valley of ~~the~~ Shadows" Full of night and despair. Did'nt know the 23rd Psalm. Later in life he had found X and when he himself was passing, he called for his paints and brushes and masterpiece, saying "It is flooded with glory, and i must change the picture.!

Sunset and sunrise.

2. When Elijah departed in his chariot of fire, Elisha received a double portion of his spirit, and taking up his teacher s mantle he smote the waters of the Jordan and they parted for him, enabling him to recross on dry ground.

Thus when our mothers and fathers are taken up into heaven their mantles fall upon us and it is our privelege to receive a double portion of their spirit and to return to the tasks of life and the responsibiliites of home conscious of the fact that in the presence of God they are still with us.

As the Marys gathered unto the crucified Christ and discovered the empty tomb and risen Lord, and as our mothers of yesterday clung to their Savior and God, so may we, their children, the fathers and mothers of tomorrow gather unto God in Christ and again, in double measure, interpret anew to the world, thru faith and love and service, that Xn living brings unity and harmony and happiness into our homes, gives strength of character to the manhod and womanhood of our children, and offers a solution to all our oroblems and a solace to our hearts in all our afflictions and sorrows of life.